# City of Fairfax Police Department



The City of Fairfax Police Department's mission is to provide prompt, reliable and professional police services while partnering with the community to reduce crime, solve problems and enhance public safety.

# CITY OF FAIRFAX POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### ANNUAL REPORT 2019 – MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE



This year marked another year of accomplishment for the men and women of the City of Fairfax Police Department. Our police officers and support staff were presented with a variety of challenges, such as economic growth, construction activity, and new transportation options. Our officers and support staff continued their proud tradition of meeting these challenges and providing excellent police services to both our residential and business communities. Contributing to our success in maintaining a high level of safety in the City, was the outstanding support the Police Department received from the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, City Administration, our business and residential communities, and the Chief's Advisory Council (CAC).

Over this twelve month period, the police department continued its modernization agenda around leadership, diversity, safety, technology, policy and oversight, training, and building relationships with our outstanding community. This has further improved our capacity to effectively respond to important public safety issues, while meeting community and government priorities. A hallmark of our department is the enthusiastic participation by our members in a variety of community outreach events such as our Mentoring Program, Safe Neighborhoods, Kids Safety Saturday, National Night Out, Street Smart, and many other initiatives throughout the community.

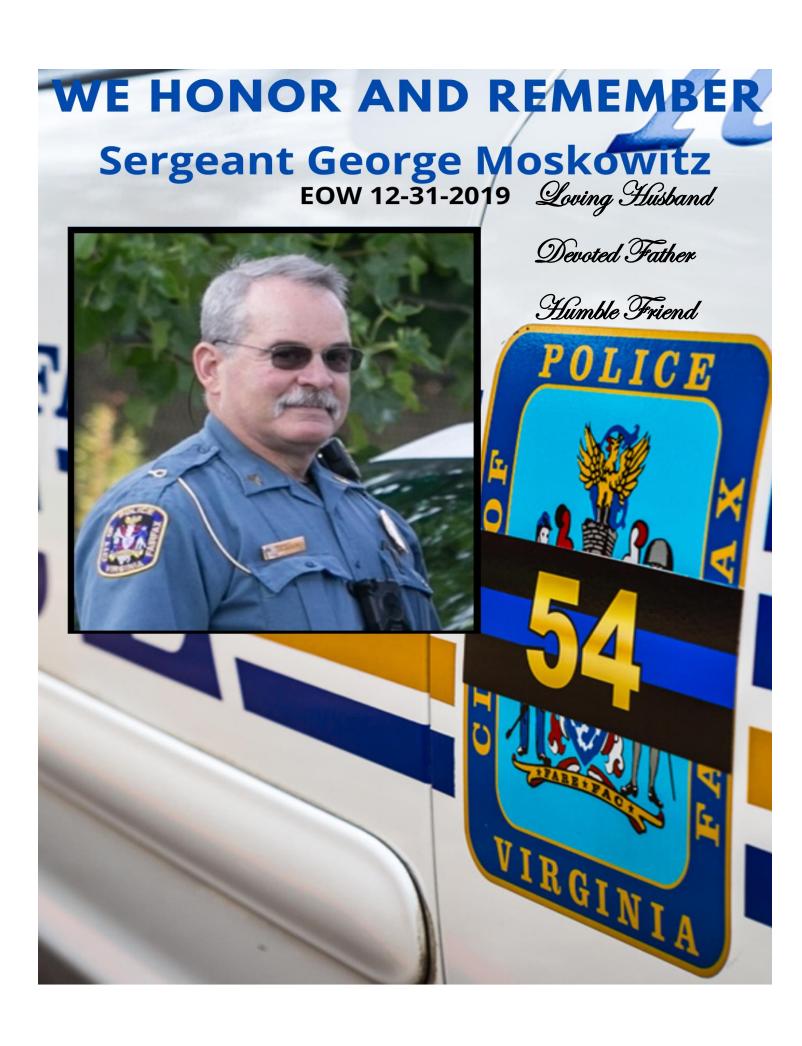
The City of Fairfax Police Department continued to invest in the morale of its members with a particular focus on the importance of advanced training for specialized positions, continued learning opportunities, and the health and wellbeing of its employees.

We will continue to excel in the years ahead because of the commitment and motivation of our department's personnel. I am confident that our department will overcome the challenges of tomorrow by enhancing recruitment and retention efforts, by selecting talented and experienced personnel for position openings, and by promoting transformational leaders at all levels of the department. Our goal is to harness innovation to enhance the ways we serve and support our community members and our employees.

This report exemplifies the outstanding work of our employees and our shared commitment to providing responsive and professional police services in partnership with the community. We are fortunate to serve in a vibrant, livable, 21<sup>st</sup> Century community where we are privileged to enjoy the support of both our residents and all levels of our City government.

Colonel Erin Schaible

Chief of Police



# **Sergeant George Moskowitz**



After an admirable career in Fairfax County, retiring as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in 2011, Sergeant George Moskowitz served with the City of Fairfax Police Department from August 29, 2011 to December 31, 2019.

A city resident, Sergeant Moskowitz was an outstanding asset to our community, devoted husband, and loving father to his four children.

Sergeant Moskowitz brought charisma, knowledge, and experience to every individual he interacted with; known for his quiet spoken demeanor, and creative vocabulary, he could resolve even the tensest

of situations with ease and poise.

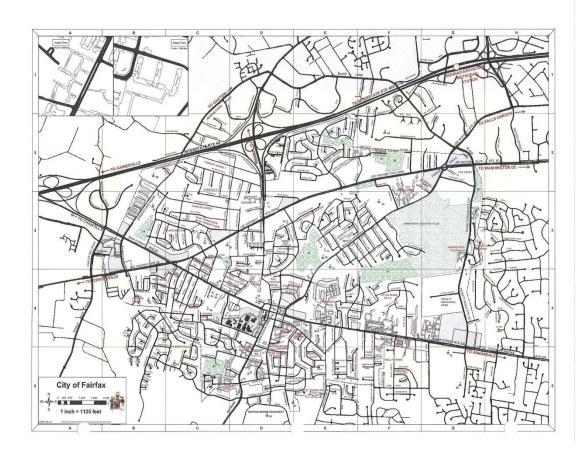
Though we lost Sergeant Moskowitz far too early, his legacy will forever continue on in both the hearts and minds of members of the Police Department and the community. Legends do live on for futures to come.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

CITY OF FAIRFAX: CROSSROADS OF ACTIVITY1
CITY OF FAIRFAX POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART2
CITY OF FAIRFAX POLICE DEPARTMENT HISTORY3
COMMUNITY POLICING TEAMS4
CITIZEN COMPLAINT AND USE OF FORCE DATA5
2019 SURVEY SHOWS CONTINUED CITIZEN APPROVAL6
CREATING A CULTURE OF ENGAGEMENT AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE7-
2019 SPOTLIGHT ON THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS10
CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE: 2017-201911
CRIMES BY TYPE12
NDEX CRIME CLEARANCES13
POLICE ENFORCEMENT14
SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS15
MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES16
RESPECT RED PROGRAM17
PARKING ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY18
ANIMAL CONTROL ACTIVITY19

#### CITY OF FAIRFAX: CROSSROADS OF ACTIVITY



With its strategic location in the midst of growing Northern Virginia and the surrounding National Capital region, the City of Fairfax contains a diversified mix of office-based, retail and service businesses along with more than four dozen residential communities. A major asset to the City is its location next to the ever expanding George Mason University, whose employees and students are not only significant contributors to the liveliness and diversity of the community, but offers convenient educational and cultural opportunities to City residents. This combination of features and an effective municipal government earned the City a designation as the sixth safest city in the Commonwealth according to the National Council for Home Safety and Security and second safest according to Safehome. While it recognizes and cherishes its historic past, the City of Fairfax actively embraces the present and aggressively plans for the future.

As a commercial hub and intersection of several significant roadways, the City of Fairfax attracts thousands of residents and employees from beyond its borders who pass through or stop in the City on a daily basis, resulting in a substantial flow of traffic. This along with the regular demands for police services within six very active square miles presents a variety of challenges which the City of Fairfax Police Department meets on a daily basis.

#### CITY OF FAIRFAX POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



#### CITY OF FAIRFAX POLICE DEPARTMENT HISTORY











The Town of Fairfax Police Department was established in 1949. It became the City of Fairfax Police Department in 1961.

The Police Department had four patches prior to the current patch. The first patch was a triangle with Fairfax Town Police VA."on it. The second patch stated Fairfax Town Police Va."with a monument and cannon reflecting those standing in front of the historic courthouse in the background. In 1961, the word town was removed from the patch when the town became a City. In 1965 the patch again was changed. It read Fairfax City Police Virginia"with a cannon and the monument on top of City Hall. In 1980, the City of Fairfax Police Department changed the uniform shoulder patch to the current style.

In 1973, the City of Fairfax adopted the City's Coat of Arms, created by the College of Arms in London, England. The crest of the Coat of Arms has a mural crown representing a circular stone wall, which symbolizes a City. On top of the crown is a seated Griffin. The Griffin is half eagle and half lion. The Griffin represents the alliance between America and England, and recalls the founding of the Virginia colony by England. Endowed with strength, it is supposed to act as guardian of the treasures. The Lion in the shield has its feet and claws extended symbolizing the defending of a City. The colors of red, white and blue are those of both England and the United States.

The colonial garbed supporter represents Thomas, the sixth Lord Fairfax, for whom the City was named. The other supporter of the crest, Captain John Quincy Marr, was the first combatant death in the Battle of Fairfax Courthouse during the Civil War. There is a marker on the courthouse lawn which reminds us of the event and of that part of history of the City of Fairfax.

The motto, Fare Fac'was used by the Fairfax family and means speak-do'or say it and do it."

#### **COMMUNITY POLICING TEAMS**

The City of Fairfax Police Department has four Community Policing Teams, each team has two leaders, a lieutenant and a sergeant, who coordinate the efforts of a team of officers. Each team is responsible for addressing crime, traffic and other quality of life issues in their assigned team area.

Citizens are able to locate their neighborhood on the chart below, and communicate directly with their Community Policing Team leader.

Citizens are encouraged to invite Community Policing Team leaders to community meetings and other events.

Area #1	Area #2	Area #3	Area #4
Cambridge Station	Barristers Keepe	Ardmore	Assembly
Country Club Hills	Comstock	Aspen Grove	Cavalier Court
Fairfax Oaks (Ridge Ave.)	Crestar	Autumn Woods	Churchill Mews
Great Oaks	Fair Oaks	Breckinridge	Cobbdale
Layton Hall	Fairview	Cameron Glen	Copperfield Square
2	Fairview Farrcroft	•	Fairchester Woods
Lord Fairfax Estates Mosby Woods	Foxcroft	Canfield Condominiums Chancery Park	
Mosby Woods Condominiums	Halemhurst	Chancery Fark Chancery Square	Fairfax Heights
Mosby woods Condominiums		1 2	Gainsborough Court
	Holly Park	Courthouse Square	Jermantown Village
	Kirkwood	Crestmont	Oxford Row
	Little River Hills	Fairfax Towne Estates	Warren Woods
	Lyndhurst	Fairfax Triangle	Westmore
	Maple Trace	Fairfax West Condominiums	
	Old Lee Hills	Green Acres	
	Orchard Knolls	Limewood Mews	
	Picketts Reserve	Madison Mews	
	Ridge Crest	Maple Hills	
	Somerset	Olde Fairfax Mews	
	The Boltons	Providence	
		Providence Square	
		Royal Legacy	
		Rustfield	
		The Crossings	
		Tusico Villa (Triangle)	
		Warren Woods-Joyce Heights	
		Windy Hill	
		Wren's Courtyard	

Michael.duncan@fairfaxva.gov	702 270 7007	
1.2. c.	703.279-7997	Lt. Michael Duncan
Jay.tolan@fairfaxva.gov	703.293-7101	Lt. Jay Tolan
Andrew.hawkins@fairfaxva.gov	703.385-7961	Lt. Andrew Hawkins
Mathew.lasowitz@fairfaxva.gov	703.273-3022	Lt. Matt Lasowitz
	Andrew.hawkins@fairfaxva.gov  Mathew.lasowitz@fairfaxva.gov	Andrew.hawkins@fairfaxva.gov 703.385-7961

Due to the current pandemic, recognition of outstanding achievement awards for 2019 selection has been delayed. The men and women of the City of Fairfax Police Department will be recognized for their commendable achievements on a later date.

In 2019, as in many previous years, the employees of the City of Fairfax Police Department received substantially more commendations than complaints from citizens to whom they provided service. The department received 39 formal commendations and 7 citizen complaints.

All complaints the Police Department receives regarding its employees are thoroughly investigated by the agency. Of the 7 complaints received from citizens in 2019, 2 were determined to be sustained, and 3 resolved after initial inquiry revealed there was no reasonable suspicion of employee misconduct. Additionally, 2 cases are still currently under investigation.

In addition to investigating complaints received from citizens, the department self-initiated 35 investigations related to employee conduct in 2019. Of those Department Complaints: 13 resulted in no reasonable suspicion of member misconduct, 17 resulted in corrective or disciplinary action being taken, 1 resulted in an exonerated disposition, and 4 cases are still under review. Internal cases resulted from efforts taken by supervisors to address misconduct, hold employees accountable for their actions, and correct employee performance when necessary.

The department received a total of 14,580 calls for service in 2019. This total does not include the number of concerns that supervisors received by email, telephone or personal contact. Officers conducted 6,313 traffic stops, issued 7,605 summonses, gave over 2,499 warnings, worked 947 traffic accidents and made 984 criminal charges. The total number of recorded police/citizen contacts during the year was 20,893. The 2019 ratio of citizen/police contacts to the number of citizen complaints received was one complaint for every 2,083 contacts. This number does not include the countless interactions that officers had with the public during routine contacts which were not documented.

While 586 in-custody arrests were made in 2019, there were 18 cases where suspects resisted arrest and officers applied physical control techniques. Of those cases, 12 suspects sustained minor injuries while 2 officers also were the recipients of injuries. Of the persons arrested in 2019, 331 people were found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of arrest.

A citizen complaint/concern/commendation form can be completed on-line in the Police Department section of the City of Fairfax web site (<u>www.fairfaxva.gov/police</u>). Commendations are always graciously accepted. Citizens may also file complaints, concerns or make commendations in person at Police Headquarters, 3730 Old Lee Highway, or by telephone to (703) 385-7968.

#### 2019 Survey Shows Continued Citizen Approval

The City of Fairfax Police Department continues to use citizen surveys as a way to ensure quality services are being provided to the community. The surveys gather important information regarding the public's satisfaction with the overall performance of the agency and the competency of individual employees. The surveys also provide qualitative measures regarding citizen perceptions of employee attitudes and behaviors at the time police services were rendered. The annual survey provides citizens with the opportunity to express their concerns regarding safety and security within the City of Fairfax and offer recommendations and suggestions for improvement. It also allows citizens to assist in the department's strategic planning process by making suggestions that might improve the quality of life in the community.

The results of the 38 surveys returned of the 203 mailed out in 2019 were largely positive. Typical examples of positive feedback from contacts with officers included: "Extremely impressed with officer's ability to address the issue," "Very polite, courteous, provided full attention," "I am so grateful and pleased with your services."

Several suggestions offered by citizens who completed the survey were to increase patrol efforts at pedestrian crosswalks, enhance neighborhood patrols and conduct enforcement related to texting and driving.

The results of the survey are shared with all members of the department. The objective of sharing citizen input is to remind both officers and management of the importance of maintaining high levels of service as well as continuing to improve police services.

The City of Fairfax Police Department handled 821 Community Policing Projects during the course of 2019. These Community Policing Projects are generated in response to citizen concerns regarding criminal or traffic issues in their respective residential areas.

#### CREATING A CULTURE OF ENGAGEMENT AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE



## 2019 National Night Out

The City of Fairfax Police Department further enhanced a culture of community engagement by participating with other agencies in National Night Out on August 6, 2019.



Lt. Joe Trahey and Sgt. Matt Kenyon



Lt. Joe Trahey and Sgt. Matt Kenyon



Lt. Matt Lasowitz

# July 4th Parade



MPO Wade Brabble, PFC Bill Lawlor, Sgt. Brock Rutter, Lt. Joe Trahey, and PFC Brian Crump

# Read a book with a cop



Captain Mitch Johnson

# Toy Donation to the Main Street Center



Chief Erin Schaible and PFC Bill Lawlor

#### **Blue Mass Service**



Lt. Michael Bartholme, Lt. Joe Johnson, and PFC David Tran

# **Special Olympics**



Chief Erin Schaible

# THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

#### Case #2019-16124

On October 8, 2019 an officer received a phone call late at night from a school administrator stating that some high school students had been assaulted while walking home from school. The police department began investigating immediately the next day and was able to obtain excellent witness statements from the victims. Detectives assisted in the investigation, following up on leads and suspects. The investigation revealed that not only were the students assaulted they were also robbed of their belongings by six suspects. After an extensive investigation was completed, six suspects (three juveniles and three adults) were identified and eventually arrested for the offenses of robbery and assault by mob.

This case was very time intensive. Detectives' thoroughness and teamwork in this case resulted in making the City of Fairfax a much safer place. The ability to conduct thorough interviews and piece together a complex case, involving multiple suspects from around the region, reflect great credit upon themselves and the City of Fairfax Police Department.

#### Case #2019-16957

On October 23, 2019 officers responded to a report of a robbery at Diamond Flash Spa located at 10560 Main Street, #209. On-scene officers and detectives discovered that the suspect, who had displayed a knife while taking money and a cell phone from the victim, had already fled the area. Detectives carefully processed the scene and were able to develop a suspect during the course of their investigation. On November 18, 2019, an arrest warrant for robbery and a search warrant for the suspect's residence were obtained. A day later, the suspect was arrested by detectives for robbery.

Detectives continued to following up on other leads, and were able to determine that their suspect was involved in a recently reported rape in Fairfax County. The Fairfax County Police Department was able to utilize the information obtained by detectives to obtain an arrest warrant for robbery and rape on the suspect.

The Criminal Investigation Division continued to follow leads and pore through information they are gathering in this case. The detectives could have simply stopped their investigation after obtaining enough evidence to close the case assigned to them. Already they have discovered other female victims of crimes and are currently sharing their knowledge with other jurisdictions to help them close other sexual assaults and robberies.

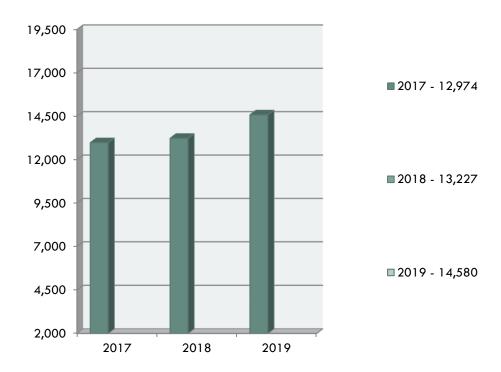
Not only did detectives go above and beyond the call of duty in this case, they are assisting numerous other jurisdictions who are also in pursuit of justice for their victims. Their determination, knowledge, and skills are exemplary and they should be recognized for their efficiency, effectiveness, and professionalism.

#### CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE: 2017-2019



Calls for police service increased by 1,353 calls in 2019. The number of calls received reflected a 10.2 percent increase from 2018. These numbers do not include the number of emails, telephone calls, or walk-in complaints that were received by supervisors.

As part of its community policing philosophy, the department strives toward efficient community policing and encourages the community to call the police about suspicious activity.



#### **CRIMES BY TYPE**

## Selected Part 1 Index Crimes

	2017	2018	2019
Murder	0	0	0
Rape	4	6	3
Robbery	24	14	11
Aggravated Assault	4	6	8
Burglary	11	13	11
Larceny	361	374	330
Motor Vehicle Theft	20	25	28
Total	424	438	391

#### Other Offenses

	2017	2018	2019
Vandalism	134	115	132
Hate Crime	1	0	0
Hate Incident	0	1	0
Trespassing	29	23	30

Disclaimer: These statistics are compiled and categorized using standards set by the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program and represent the most updated information at the time this report was published.

#### INDEX CRIME CLEARANCES

Selected Part 1 Index Crime Clearances

	2017	2018	2019	2018 National Clearance Rate*
Murder	N/A	N/A	N/A	62.3%
Rape	25.0%	83.3%	33.3%	33.4%
Robbery	58.3%	57.1%	54.6%	30.4%
Aggravated Assault	100.0%	50.0%	87.5%	52.5%
Burglary	36.4%	46.2%	36.4%	13.9%
Larceny	20.2%	26.2%	13.9%	18.9%
Motor Vehicle Theft	45.0%	60.0%	46.4%	13.8%

<sup>\*</sup>These are National Clearance rates reported by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting program

# **Criminal Investigations Division**

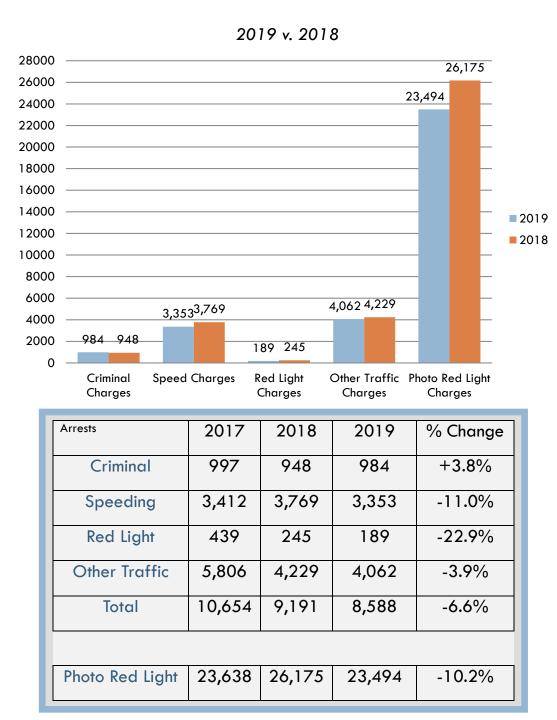
The Criminal Investigations Division investigates a large number of Part I index crimes and also investigates a number of Part II index crimes such as forgery, fraud, identity theft, embezzlement, vice offenses and offenses against family and children.

# Criminal Investigations Division Clearance Rate of Assigned Cases

	2017	2018	2019
No. of cases assigned	207	197	230
No. of cases cleared	163	143	170
Pct. of cases cleared	78.7%	72.6%	73.9%

#### POLICE ENFORCEMENT

The primary responsibilities of the Field Operations Division, comprised of both Patrol and Support Operations, are to respond to reported criminal activities, conduct motor vehicle accident investigations and maintain consistent enforcement of traffic and criminal laws. These enforcement activities help to maintain and promote highway safety for motorists and pedestrians alike and also serve to maintain the City's excellent quality of life for its residents and business community.



#### SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

The Safe Neighborhoods traffic enforcement program was established in response to growing concerns regarding the volume of traffic, and the number of traffic violations occurring in City neighborhoods. In addition to increased neighborhood enforcement, the Safe Neighborhoods program also uses the department's two Speed Watch trailers to remind motorists to observe residential speed limits. Locations are assigned based on current and previous citizen concerns and officer input.

#### Residential Traffic Enforcement

	2017	2018	2019
Number of Locations	313	162	133
Number of Hours	440	244	162
Speeding Charges	379	364	228
Other Charges	228	123	95
Warnings	52	40	5

# Deployments

	2017	2018	2019
Speed Watch Trailers	48	31	6
Marked Decoy Vehicle	5	1	5
Portable Speed Signs	N/A	N/A	33

#### **MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES**

ТҮРЕ	2017	2018	2019	CHANGE
Fatal Accidents	0	2	2	No Change 0.0%
Injury Accidents	176	105	106	+1 +0.9%
Property Damage Accidents	420	310	420	+110 +35.5%
Total Reportable Accidents	596	417	528	+111 +26.6%
Non-Reportable	470	427	418	-9 -2.1%
Total All Accidents*	1,066	844	946	+102 +12.1%

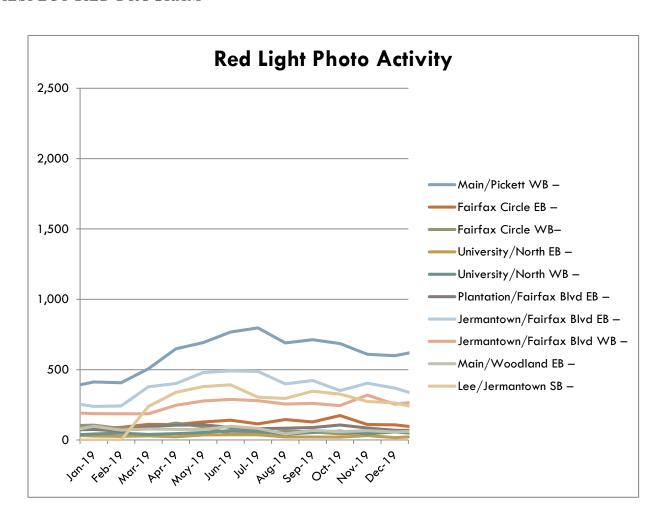
<sup>\*</sup>Includes Reportable, Non-Reportable and Hit & Run.

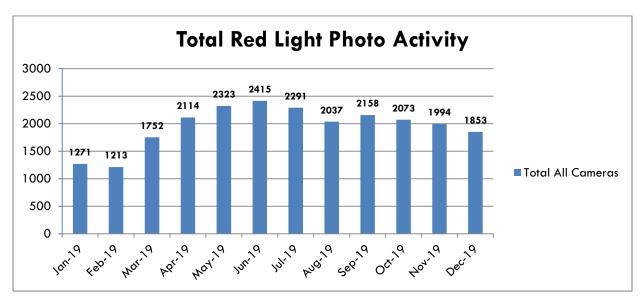
#### OTHER MOTOR VEHICLE RELATED DATA

Alcohol Related Accidents	22	10	15	+5 +50.0%
DUI Charges	64	60	78	+18 +30.0%
Accident Charges	499	354	433	+79 +22.3%
Hit & Run	192	161	163	+2 +1.2%

A non-reportable accident is defined as an accident with less than \$1,500 of combined property damage and no personal injuries. Accidents which occur on private property also are considered non-reportable.

#### RESPECT RED PROGRAM

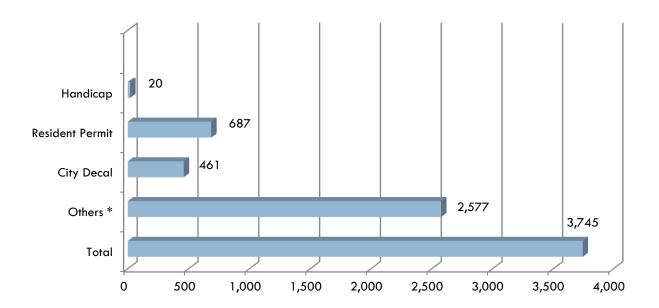




#### PARKING ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

The department employs one full-time and one part-time Parking Enforcement Official (PEO). Their responsibilities include parking enforcement and handling inoperable motor vehicle cases. In 2019, PEOs handled 2 inoperable vehicle cases and issued a total of 3,745 parking summonses.

Types of Parking Summonses Issued - 2019



## Parking Summonses Issued by Type

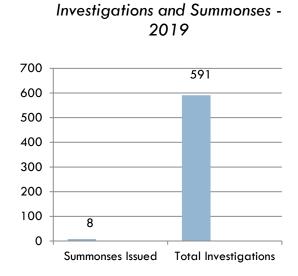
	2017	2018	2019
Handicap	33	20	20
Residential Permit Violations	555	665	687
City Decal	505	598	461
Others *	2,162	2,122	2,577
Total	3,255	3,405	3,745

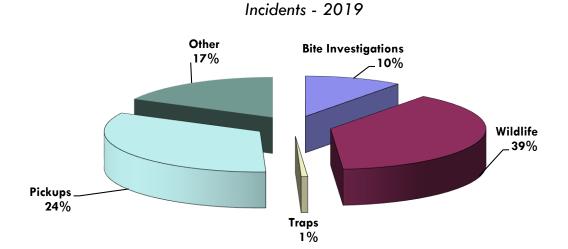
<sup>\*</sup> Others include parking in a fire lane, parking a commercial vehicle in a residential zone, no valid state registration or inspection displayed, parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant and others.

#### **ANIMAL CONTROL ACTIVITY**

The department employs two full-time Animal Control Officers to ensure public safety and the peaceful co-existence of residents, pets and wildlife. In 2019, Animal Control handled 589 investigations.

	2017	2018	2019
Incidents	I		
Pickups	152	219	196
Traps	5	7	4
Wildlife	232	240	228
Bite Investigations	48	68	60
Other	152	134	103
Summonses Issued	4	2	8
Total Investigations	589	668	591





# For additional information concerning this report please contact:

Lieutenant Shawn Sutherland
Public Information Office
City of Fairfax Police Department
3730 Old Lee Highway
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
(703) 273-2889

E-Mail: police.information@fairfaxva.gov

www.fairfaxva.gov/police



